HOUSE BILL 2521

By Turner M

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-911(c), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(c) A student receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship who fails to achieve the required cumulative grade point average at any time at which continuing eligibility is reviewed, shall be placed on probation until the next time continuing academic eligibility is reviewed. While on probation, a student shall continue to be awarded the full amount of the Tennessee HOPE scholarship. If a probationary student's cumulative grade point meets or exceeds the requirement for continuing eligibility for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship at the next time academic eligibility is reviewed, then the student shall regain the Tennessee HOPE scholarship without probationary status. If at a time at which continuing eligibility is reviewed, a probationary student's grade point average computed using only those semester hours attempted during the probation period just completed meets or exceeds the cumulative grade point average required for the continuation of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, then the student shall continue to receive the scholarship on a probationary basis until the next time continuing academic eligibility is reviewed. If a probationary student fails to make the required cumulative grade point average for the continuation of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship or the probationary grade point average for continuation of probationary status, then such student shall be academically ineligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship and for probationary status. A probationary student who becomes academically ineligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship or

probationary status may, however, regain the HOPE scholarship or probationary status, if the student continues to meet all applicable nonacademic requirements for the scholarship, attends an eligible postsecondary institution without postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds, achieves the cumulative grade point average required for continuation of the HOPE scholarship or the probationary grade point average at the end of any semester in which eligibility would have been reviewed under this section had the student not lost probationary status, and reapplies for the scholarship or for probationary status. A student who regains the scholarship or probationary status and then loses probationary status a second time, may not regain the scholarship or probationary status. No retroactive award of postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds shall be made under this subsection (c) for semester hours attempted without postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds in order to regain the scholarship or probationary status.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008, the public welfare requiring it, and shall apply to students seeking postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds for academic year 2008-2009 and academic years thereafter.

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